GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:381
ANSWERED ON:21.08.2000
MODERNISATION OF POSTAL SERVICES
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Department of Posts has initiated any plan for modernisation of postal services in the country and Thar region of western Rajasthan particularly;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) The plan outlay provided for the purpose and the amount utilised on this account during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) The details of schemes proposed to be taken up by the Government to make further improvement in postal services in the country.?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PARTS (a) TO (d) of LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No.381 for 21st AUGUST, 200 REGARDING MODERNISATION OF POSTAL SERVICES IN RAJASTHAN

The Department has initiated a plan for modernisation of postal services in the country since the beginning of the early nineties. It also includes the Thar region of Western Rajasthan.

2. The broad areas in which induction of technology is being attempted are as under:-

(i) Computerisation of counter functions, the major point of interface with the customer, for providing a single window for all transactions.

(ii) Use of the satellite based technology for transmission of money orders for the common man specially in rural areas.

(iii) Automatising the mail processing system in major metro-politan cities.

3. During the 8th Five Year Plan 2660 computer based multipurpose counter machines, 77 Very Small Aperture Terminals (VSATs) were installed in the country at a cost of Rs.16.28 crores and Rs.14.11 crores respectively. For automatic processing of mail two computerised centres have been set up at Mumbai and Chennai at a cost of Rs.46.46 crores. With special reference to Western Rajasthan, it is stated that one VSAT station, 14 ESMO Centres and 82 multipurpose counter machines have been installed as stated at Annexe I. Further, savings bank functions have been fully computerised at Jodhpur, Shastri Nagar, Bikaner and Sriganga Nagar Head Post Offices and a computerised Customer Care Centre, a computerised Philatelic Bureau have been established at Jodhpur. The total plan outlay during 1997-98, 98-99 and 99-2000 with regard to modernisation and computerisation was as under:-

	Outlay	Expenditure
1997-98	42.95 crores	38.76 crores
1998-99	44.48 crores	37.77 crores
1999-2000	61.09 crores	Under compilation

State-wise expenditure during the last 3 years is given in Annexure II. This includes expenditure on modernisation of mail offices.

4. The following activities have been taken up by Government to make further improvement in postal services:-

(i) Upgrading the VSAT system with induction of latest technology

(ii) Upgrading multipurpose counter machines with the help of state of art software, called, Meghdoot`98

(iii) Installation of automatic stamp cancelling machines at the identified post offices

(iv) Installation of electronic franking machines at identified post offices

(v) Installation of 1500 more Extended Satellite Money order Stations.

(vi) Installation of Bill payment software offering integrated counter service to the citizens.

(vii) Supply chain management in e-commerce

(viii) Greeting Post

(ix) Setting up more automatic sorting machines

(x) Total computerisation of post offices in LAN environment.

ANNEXURE-I

LIST OF MULTI-PURPOSE COUNTER MACHINES INSTALLED IN WESTERN RAJASTHAN.

S.NO.	Name of the Post Office	Total
1	Bikaner H.O.	8
2	Churu H.O.	3
3	Sardarshahar LSG PO	1
4	Jhunjhunu HO	1
5	Jodhpur HO	26
6	Shastrinagar HO Jodhpur	10
7	Katchery S.O.Jodhpur	4
8	Chopasani Road SO Jodh	1
9	Residency Road PO Jodh.	1
10	Jaisalmer H.O.	4
11	Nagaur H.O.	1
12	Pali H.O.	1
13	Sikar H.O.	3
14	Sirohi H.O.	2
15	Abu Road S.O.	1
16	Mt.Abu S.O.	1
17	Jalour H.O.	1
18	Sriganganagar H.O.	9
19	Hanumangarh Jn.H.O.	1
20	P.S.D.Jodhpur	1
21	Girdikot SO Jodhpur	2

ANNEXURE-II

STATE-WISE SPLIT UP OF EXPENDITURE ON MODERNISATION OF POST OFFICES & MAIL OFFICES DURING THE YEARS.

(IN LAKHS)

S.NO.	Name of State.	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000
1	Assam	193.11	31.94	34.71
2	A.P.	85.63	38.79	93.2
3	Bihar	32.31	37.54	27.15
4	Delhi	42.67	28.37	65.87
5	Gujarat	93.48	41.47	31.51
6	Haryana	44.29	28.02	25.85
7	H.P.	13.28	12.31	13.29
8	J&K	35.2	16.45	30.35
9	Karnataka	87.21	32.72	39.87
10	Kerala	91.56	69.73	29.03
11	Madhya Pradesh	53.65	35.9	23.38
12	Maharashtra	69.86	90.13	70.59
13	North-East	33.74	25.3	41.51
14	Orissa	49.18	40.22	32.97

15 Punjab 58.7 42.57 38.01
16 Rajasthan 79.73 18.69 19.82
17 Tamil Nadu 93.27 106.81 51.54
18 U.P. 161.17 100.47 60.99
19 West Bengal 114.54 98.03 58.76